

As a below named inventor I hereby declare that:

My residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated below next to my name, I believe I am the original, first and sole inventor (if only one name is listed below) or an original, first and joint inventor (if plural names are listed below) of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled:

**APPARATUS FOR DEEP FAT FRYING**

the specification of which: (complete (a), (b) or (c) for type of application)

**REGULAR OR DESIGN APPLICATION**

(a) [ X ] is attached hereto.  
(b) [ ] was filed on \_\_\_\_\_ as Application Serial No. \_\_\_\_\_ and was amended on \_\_\_\_\_ (if applicable).

**PCT FILED APPLICATION ENTERING NATIONAL PHASE**

(c) [ ] was described and claimed in International Application No. \_\_\_\_\_ filed \_\_\_\_\_ and as amended on \_\_\_\_\_ (if any).

**ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF REVIEW OF PAPERS AND DUTY OF CANDOR**

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment referred to above.

I acknowledge the duty to disclose to the Office all information known to me to be material to patentability as defined in Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, § 1.56(a).

[ ] In compliance with this duty there is attached an information disclosure statement. 37 CFR 1.97.

**PRIORITY CLAIM**

I hereby claim foreign priority benefits under Title 35, United States Code, § 119 of any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate listed below and have also identified below any foreign application for patent or inventor's certificate having a filing date before that of the application on which priority is claimed: (complete (d) or (e))

(d) [ X ] no such applications have been filed.  
(e) [ ] such applications have been filed as follows

**EARLIEST FOREIGN APPLICATION(S), IF ANY FILED WITHIN 12 MONTHS PRIOR TO SAID APPLICATION**

Country	Application No.	Date of Filing	Date of Issue	Priority Claimed
				<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO
				<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO
				<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO

**ALL FOREIGN APPLICATION(S), IF ANY FILED MORE THAN 12 MONTHS PRIOR TO SAID APPLICATION**


**PROVISIONAL**

I hereby claim the benefit under Title 35, United States Code, § 119(e) of any United States application(s) listed below:

Application Serial No.	Filing Date	Status (patented, pending, abandoned)
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**CONTINUATION-IN-PART**

(Complete This Part Only If This Is A Continuation-In-Part Application)

I hereby claim the benefit under Title 35, United States Code, § 120 of any United States application(s) listed below and, insofar as the subject matter of each of the claims of this application is not disclosed in the prior United States application in the manner provided by the first paragraph of Title 35, United States Code, § 112, I acknowledge the duty to disclose to the Office all information known to me to be material to patentability as defined in Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, § 1.56(a), which became available between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT international filing date of the continuation-in-part application:

Application Serial No.	Filing Date	Status (patented, pending, abandoned)
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**POWER OF ATTORNEY**

As a named inventor, I hereby appoint the following attorney(s) to prosecute this application and transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith:

Robert D. Hovey	19,223	Andrew G. Colombo	40,565
Warren N. Williams	19,156	Tracy Bornman	42,347
Stephen D. Timmons	26,513	Tracey S. Truitt	43,205
John M. Collins	26,262	Scott R. Brown	40,535
Thomas H. Van Hoozer	32,761	David V. Ayres	46,529
Thomas B. Luebbering	37,874	Gerhard Shipley	45,682

SEND CORRESPONDENCE TO: HOVEY, WILLIAMS, TIMMONS & COLLINS 2405 Grand, Suite 400 Kansas City, Missouri 64108	DIRECT TELEPHONE CALLS TO: (816) 474-9050
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I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

Full name of sole or first inventor	Reams R. Ponting	
Inventor's Signature	<i>Reams R. Ponting</i>	
Date 1-8-02	Country of Citizenship	United States
Residence	Rte. 2, Box 133, Hale, Missouri 64643	
Post Office Address	Rte. 2, Box 133, Hale, Missouri 64643	
Full name of second joint inventor, if any	Ben Gibson	
Inventor's Signature	<i>Ben Gibson</i>	
Date 1-8-02	Country of Citizenship	United States
Residence	Rte. 5, Box 68A, Carrollton, Missouri 64633	
Post Office Address	P.O. Box 450 Carrollton, MO 64633	
Full name of third joint inventor, if any		

Applicant or Patentee Reams R. Ponting and Ben Gibson

Attorney's Docket No. 31688

Serial or Patent No:

File or Issued:

For: APPARATUS FOR DEEP FAT FRYING

**VERIFIED STATEMENT (DECLARATION) CLAIMING SMALL ENTITY STATUS**  
**(37 CFR 1.9(f) AND 1.27(b)) - INDEPENDENT INVENTOR**

As a below named inventor, I hereby declare that I qualify as an independent inventor as defined in 37 CFR 1.9(c) for purposes of paying reduced fees under Section 41(a) and (b) of Title 35, United States Code, to the Patent and Trademark Office with regard to the invention entitled described in

the specification filed herewith

application serial no. \_\_\_\_\_, filed \_\_\_\_\_

patent no. , issued \_\_\_\_\_

I have not assigned, granted, conveyed or licensed and am under no obligation under contract or law to assign, grant, convey or license, any rights in the invention to any person who could not be classified as an independent inventor under 37 CFR 1.9(c) if that person had made the invention, or to any concern which would not qualify as a small business concern under 37 CFR 1.9(d) or a nonprofit organization under 37 CFR 1.9(e).

Each person, concern or organization to which I have assigned, granted, conveyed, or licensed or am under an obligation under contract or law to assign, grant, convey, or license any rights in the invention is listed below:

no such person, concern or organization

persons, concerns or organizations listed below\*

Name		
Address		
<input type="checkbox"/> INDIVIDUAL	<input type="checkbox"/> SMALL BUSINESS CONCERN	<input type="checkbox"/> NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION
Name		
Address		
<input type="checkbox"/> INDIVIDUAL	<input type="checkbox"/> SMALL BUSINESS CONCERN	<input type="checkbox"/> NONPROFIT organization

\*NOTE: Separate verified statements are required from each named person, concern or organization having rights to the invention averring to their status as small entities. (37 CFR 1.27)

I acknowledge the duty to file, in this application or patent, notification of any change in status resulting in loss of entitlement to small entity status prior to paying, or at the time of paying, the earliest of the issue fee or any maintenance fee due after the date on which status as a small entity is no longer appropriate. (37 CFR 1.28(b)).

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application, any patent issuing thereon, or any patent to which this verified statement is directed.

Name of Inventor Reams R. Ponting	Name of Inventor Ben Gibson	Name of Inventor
Signature of Inventor <i>Reams R. Ponting</i>	Signature of Inventor <i>Ben Gibson</i>	Signature of Inventor
Date 1-8-02	Date 1-8-02	Date